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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts fon wish to have rejected articles returned, the must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Cuba's Latest View of the Platt Amendment.

Several weeks ago a bill was introduced in the Cuban House of Representatives for the printing and distribution of fifty thousand copies of the Cuban Constitution minus the Platt Amendment. A motion to amend the bill by providing for the inclusion of the Platt Amendment was defeated last Friday by a vote of 16 to 15.

The form in which Cuba prints and distributes her Constitution is no affair of ours. She may omit as many of its titulos, secciones or articulos as she sees fit. The recent action of the House has no significance aside from its manifestation of the persistence of the objection of a considerable element of the Cuban people to the Platt Amendment

But the Cubans are wrong in their view of the place which the instrument now holds. It is a part of their Constitution, and will so continue until stricken out, as it can be, under the provision of Article 115, by a "resolution adopted by two-thirds of the total number of members of each co-legislative body." The Constitutional Convention may have accepted it under protest, as the alternative of a less acceptable condition; but it was accepted, finally and definitely, on June 12, 1901, by a vote of 16 to 11, four members of the body absenting themselves.

In view of the possibility that the amendment might some time be amended out of the Constitution, the case was covered by Article VIII. of the amendment itself in a provision that "by way of further assurance the Government of Cuba will embody the foregoing provisions in a permanent treaty with the United States." The view of Congressman VILLUENDAS, a reluctant indorser of the amendment in the convention, that it is no longer a part of the Constitution for the reason that it is embodied in a permanent treaty, falls to the ground in the face of the fact that, so far as we are aware, this treaty has not yet been ratified and put into effect. Unless we are mistaken, the instrument reposes in a Cuban pigeonhole.

Upon none of the provisions of the Instrument have the Cubans shown the slightest disposition to entrench, with the single exception of their present dangerous indifference to its financial stipulations. Upon that point the provisions of the instrument drafted by their own convention constitute as rigid a restraint as does the Platt Amendment. e trouble is that now trying to dodge both.

The One Hundred Foot Level Canal.

Public as well as professional interest in the question of canal policy increases as the time approaches for the meeting of the consulting engineers attached to the Panama Commission. That board is expected to begin its work on Sept. 1, one month from to-morrow. It is a patriotic duty for those who have useful ideas on the subject to formulate them before that date.

We therefore welcome the appearance last week in the Engineering News of a valuable paper by Major Cassius E. GILLETTE, now in charge of the Engineer Office at army headquarters at San Francisco. Major GILLETTE, with large previous experience in river control and lock and dam construction, was detailed to the Isthmus last year and made a close personal study of conditions there. His present opinions have particular interest because, as is stated editorially by the Engineering News, he went to Panama with a strong prejudice in favor of the sea level idea, a prejudice, indeed, conceived as long ago as the time when the only plan under contemplation by anybody was that of the lock canal recommended

by the commission of 1900. But Major GILLETTE's observations on the Isthmus not only convinced him that the outright sea level plan was the least expedient of all, but that the most practicable and most expedient scheme was that which holds a place almost at the other extreme of the scale, namely, at the one hundred foot level. His revised and matured views on the subject resemble those entertained by the late GEORGE S. Morison, except that Major GILLETTE would build the great dam, not at Bohio, but at Gatun, about ten miles nearer the Colon terminal.

The Major's paper is full of most interesting suggestions as to details of the work. These concern his professional brethren and need not detain us, but everybody can understand the significance of the process of rectification which has led this intelligent engineer officer, starting with an impression in favor of the sea level, to reject successively the thirty foot level, the sixty foot level, the eighty-five foot level and the ninety-seven foot and five inch level. and to adopt the one hundred foot level as the most advantageous plan.

Briefly, the process of reasoning which has resulted in so wide a change of opinion is set forth in these three propositions which we extract from different parts of Major GILLETTE's article:

1. "In general, that plan for any engineering work is best which accomplishes the desired object

2. "Some one has said that the best pavement for American cities is the one that can most easily be dug up. Similarly, it might almost be said that

8. "In this, as in all other suggested plans, the auxiliary works can all be readily completed before the Culebra cut. This plan involving the least work on that cut can therefore be completed the

Thus it will be seen that Major Cas-SIUS E. GILLETTE, by independent observation and reasoning, has reached practically the same philosophy of canal construction as was expounded in Mr. BUNAU-VABILLA's sapient and disinterested memorandum submitted to the President in March and printed in THE Sun about two months ago.

That is to say, Major GILLETTE, like the distinguished French engineer, perceives clearly that promptness of completion, as measured by the extent of necessary excavation, and consequently by the cost of the work, is the controlling consideration; that the best canal to dig on this basis is the canal which can be most easily transformed to suit future conditions; and, finally, that the time required to complete the whole canal is determined by the time needed to complete the Culebra cut, its most trouble-

some feature. It may be noted that Mr. BUNAU-VARILLA goes one step beyond the point now reached by Major GILLETTE on the same line and in the same direction. The French engineer recommends a summit level thirty feet higher than the one hundred foot level favored by Major GILLETTE. As the Culebra cut is now at 150 feet above the sea, only twenty feet of excavation remain at that point before the prism of the canal itself is reached; and the time needed for the completion of the whole work is thereby shortened, as compared with a one hundred foot level plan.

Such practical considerations as have led this American engineer and this French engineer to their respective conclusions are bound to prevail, we think, over any theoretical or sentimental ideas whatsoever.

The Abuses of Trade Unions.

The opinion of the Supreme Court of the State of Massachusetts in the case of BERRY vs. DONOVAN, recently referred to in passing, has now been reported in full, and is interesting particularly for the remarkable similarity of point of view with the New York and Illinois courts in dealing with the abuses of trade unions. In many places the language of Chief Justice Knowlton in the Massachusetts case is almost identical with the expressions in the other judicial opinions. The case is unusual, though not unique, in the nature of the legal action, which was one in tort, brought not by the company but by an employee, to recover damages sustained by the defendant's malicious interference with the plaintiff's right of contract. A common law jury brought in a verdict in the plaintiff's favor for \$1,500, which was affirmed on appeal.

The plaintiff was a shoemaker, employed by the firm of HAZEN B. GOOD-RICH & Co. at Haverhill, Mass., under a contract terminable at will. He had been working there for four years when the defendant, a representative of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, induced GOODRICH & Co. to discharge him. The discharge was occasioned by an agreement entered into by the union and the shoe concern, whereby the employer agreed to hire only members of the union in good standing, and not to retain any shoe worker after receiving notice from the union that such worker was objectionable to the union, "either on account of being in arrears for dues, or disobedience of union rules or laws, or

from any other cause." At the trial the defendant attempted in vain to get before the jury various propositions. The Judge refused to charge that the contract was legal or that the defendant was only liable if he used threats, or intimidation, or slander or some other unlawful means of coercion

to cause the employee's discharge. Chief Judge Knowl.ron now says that the trial Judge was right. He continues:

"The right to dispose of one's labor as he will. and to have the benefit of one's lawful contracts. is incident to the freedom of the individual, which lies at the foundation of the government in all countries that maintain the principle of civil liberty. Such a right can lawfully be interfered with only by one who is acting in the exercise of an equal or superior right which comes in conflict with the other. An intentional interference with such a right without lawful justification is malicious in law, even if it is from good motives and without express malice."

Chief Judge KNOWLTON then proceeds to demolish the attempted justification of the defendant that the contract was part of legitimate competition:

"The principle appealed to would justify a member of the union, who was seeking employment for himself, in making an offer to serve on such terms s would result, and as he knew would result, in the discharge of the plaintiff by his employers, to make a place for the newcomer. Such an offer for such a purpose would be unobjectionable. It would be merely the exercise of a personal right, equal in importance to the plaintiff's right. But an interterence by a combination of persons to obtain the discharge of a workman because he refuses to comply with their wishes, for their advantage, in some matter in which he has a right to act independently, is not competition."

Nor can the procedure be justified as another kind of so called competition, between employers and the employed, in the attempt of each class to obtain as large a share as possible of the income from their combined efforts in the industrial field. Judge Knowlton holds that such results are too remote to warrant this harmful interference. Expanding on this proposition, he declares:

"If such an object were treated as legitimate. and allowed to be pursued to its complete accomplishment, every employee would be forced into membership in a union, and the unions, by a combination of those in different trades and occupaions, would have complete and absolute control of all the industries in the country. Employers would be forced to yield to all their demands or give up business. The attainment of such an object in the struggle with employers would not be tition, but monopoly. A monopoly conrolling anything which the world must have is fatal to prosperity and progress. In matters of this kind the law does not tolerate monopolies The attempt to force all laborers to combine is nions is against the policy of the law, because i aims at monopoly. It therefore does not justify causing the discharge by the employer of an individual laborer working under a contract."

The Court concludes this line of rea-

soning by the following explanation, which, we submit, is the view of all who want to see fair play:

"We have no desire to put obstacles in the way of employees who are seeking by combination to obtain better conditions for themselves and their families. We have no doubt that laboring men have derived and may hereafter derive advantages from organization. We only say that under correct rules of law, and with a proper regard for the rights of individuals, labor unions cannot be permitted to drive men out of employment because the choose to work independently. If disagreeme between those who furnish the capital and those who perform the labor employed in industrial enterprises are to be settled only by industrial wars. it would give a great advantage to combinations of employees if they could be permitted by force to obtain a monopoly of the labor market. But we are hopeful that this kind of warfare will soon give way to industrial peace, and that rational methods of settling such controversies will be adopted universally."

This is an important addition to the law of labor unions, as judicially declared by the State courts.

John Mitchell on the Coal Strike.

We are indeed glad to be able to say to our readers, on no less authority than that of Mr. JOHN MITCHELL, that the "stories of strikes and general strikes in the coal mining districts are "all rot." He denies with indignation that any preparations are being made either for a strike this fall or for a strike next spring, when the agreements between the miners and their employers will expire. As for a strike this fall, he declares that "the United Mine Workers have never broken an agreement yet and do not propose to begin now."

If Mr. MITCHELL had read with greater care the editorial article in THE SUN of July 27, to which he objects, he would have seen that we said that it was "inconceivable that either miners or operators would assume responsibility for the precipitation of a conflict during the life of the agreements." As for Mr. MITCHELL's denial that any preparations are being made for a strike next April, or that a defense fund is being raised in expectation of a struggle at that time, we admit the probability of Mr. MITCHELL's better information and are glad to have his assurance of peace in the coal areas. So far as we know Mr. MITCHELL has made no threats, no positive assertions, regarding a strike next year.

But when we see a nation mobilizing its army and doing all it can to fill its treasury, and when we hear some of its leaders talking war and preparedness for war, we are compelled to believe that war is at least possible. All this may be said for the United Mine Workers. At the annual meeting of the organization last January Mr. MITCHELL said. in calling attention to the expiration of the agreements:

"It is, of course, necessary to say that our ability to make further advancement-or even to retain our present standard of living and wageswill depend in no small degree upon the strength and solidarity of our union."

Just before the opening of that convention it was reported that an effort would be made in the convention to fix a per capita assessment for raising a large defense fund, and delegates say that there will be not less than \$3,000,000 in the national treasury at the expiration of the present wage contract in April, 1906.

It is no secret that for several weeks Mr. MITCHELL has been busily at work in the coal district, addressing large and small bodies of miners and urging them to get together. He is quoted saying at Scranton on July 27:

"I am apprehensive of the condition which may prevail next year. Five hundred thousand mine workers will be affected by the expiration of these agreements. If we are prepared we can gain better conditions than we are enjoying at the present time."

All this may or may not point clearly to the peace which Mr. MITCHELL predicts because he believes "that satisfactory agreements will be entered upon without much difficulty." But. from all that has been said and done during the last seven months, it seems to us that the United Mine Workers intend to meet their employers on the first of next April with a smile on their faces and clubs in their sleeves. Mr. MITCHELL has said that he will not be satisfied until the miners get an eight hour day and a full recognition for their union. What happens if he does not get these and the advance in wages which he also wants? The talk of some of his lieutenants, notably that of Vice-President Lewis of the United Mine Workers, is far less pacific than that of Mr. MITCHELL.

We sincerely hope that Mr. MITCHELL is right, that there will be no strike, either this fall or next spring, and that mutually satisfactory agreements between miner and operator may be made and kept for all time.

The Franklin Bicentenary.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN Was born in Boston, Jan. 16, 1706. The Syracuse Herald suggests that Congress and the people generally make preparations to celebrate worthily the two hundredth anniversary of the birthday of this famous American, who "would be named by popular acclaim with Washington and LINCOLN as a trinity of greatest Americans."

FRANKLIN is a broader and more sympathetic figure than WASHINGTON and he was of much wider experience as well as cultivation than LINCOLN. His mental and public activities were so varied that many celebrations would be needed to do justice to them. The University of Pennsylvania, the libraries, the inventors and men of science, the printers, editors and publishers, and we don't know how many other bodies and vocations have a special interest

in him His faithful, skilful and invaluable services to the colonies and the new United States need to be recalled specially and signally. To mention but one thing, could the United States have made good their Declaration of Independence without the French alliance? FRANKLIN was the most accomplished diplomatist the United States has bred; an antiqueand also characteristic eighteenth century-philosopher, the wisest American

head. Is he as much app home as he is or used to be abroad? Are Americans all as grateful to him as

they should be? He was and remains perhaps the most interesting American. The hose of a thousand orators will be turned on him next January. The tranquil and genial old heathen, the man who could make even prudence and wisdom pardonable, even genial, and whose wholesome humanity with its little unconcealed errors is still so winning we dare say that he would be bored by all these eulogies. The best way to honor him is to study his long and great career, to read his works, to become reasonably familiar with a sage without a drop of priggism in him.

Mayor Dunne on His Hobby.

Speaking on "Municipal Ownership" before the Boston Tammany Club, the Hon. EDWARD FITZSIMMONS DUNNE Mayor of Chicago, said:

"I can confidently assert that it is almost in ariably the rule that where utilities are furnished by private companies they cost from 50 to 100 er cent. more than where the same utilities are furnished by the public companies."

It is unnecessary to ask upon what facts and statistics this generous generalization rests. It carries inherent evidence of its truth. Private corporations are dependent upon narrow specialists and experts. In the hands of liberal statesmen and men of affairs, like the Hon. BATH HOUSE JOHN and the Hon. HINKY DINK, for example, the management of public utilities could not fail to be very different from private management.

" Backed as we are by public sentiment and the righteousness of our cause, continues Mayor DUNNE, "I have no fears for the ultimate result." The ultimate result! In his enthusiasm Mayor Dunne may be pardoned for forgetting that he was elected Mayor in order that municipal ownership might be an "immediate" result.

But what skills a little delay, a temporary postponement of the millennium, since "Chicago is in earnest, and when she says 'I will' to-day, she will say 'I have done' to-morrow"?

Possibly Chicago will be glad to "have done" with municipal ownership after enlistment. she gets it. At present the new toy is unattainable and therefore precious.

Mayor Dunne confidently predicts that when once Chicago "has proved that municipalization of street car plants is an assured success, it will mean that hundreds of other American cities will follow in her wake."

No doubt. Meanwhile it is Chicago's wake, not that of the other cities, which watch her with sympathetic curiosity.

The Albia Union, an Iowa journal to which the Hon. JONATHAN PRENTISS DOL-LIVER is justly dear, has an interesting opinion as to the manner in which the Senate committees are selected. Repeat ing the familiar story that Senator DoL-LIVER is "slated" for the chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, the Union says:

" Secretary Wilson, in looking for a man ould fill the place, has hit on the Senator A very convenient arrangement for the Department; but doubtless Mr. WILSON is too busy just now to attend to these details. Besides, his Department has only to ask and Congress will give obediently.

Our classical friend the Norfolk Landmark sighs amid these heats for impluvia and atria and the Roman garb: " In our standards of hot weather dress for

we are certainly far be And still further behind the naked Picts. Is the toga coming into fashion in Norfolk? We should like to see our classical but perspiring friend shift and bedeck and be drape him in the high old Roman fashion.

The products of Scotland county are chiefled melons and pretty girls.—Raleigh News-Observed At last the Earthly Paradise has been discovered.

Just at this time AGUINALDO was dramatically and suddenly confronted with five horribly tor tured Filipinos.—Manila despatch to THE SUN. Horribly tortured by his pals, the l irones. Where is his poet laureate, the Hon. WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON? It is time to wake to ecstasy the living lyre and turn out another sonnet to the patriot hero.

The Hon. LEE SLATER OVERMAN, a Senator in Congress from North Carolina, says that "no man that drinks can go to Congress or bea Judge in North Carolina." By "drinks" he means "drinks too much," we suppose. The Tarheels don't insist that their Judges and Representatives be absolute Drys. As for the Governor of North Carolina he represents a historic institution. He recalls a sublime and unforgettable moment. A pleasant gurgle as of a brook in June is heard by the mind's ears at mention of his name, and the throats of half-dying thirsty men in deserts and desolate wildernesses are refreshed by the thought of him.

Englishmen make pretty good public officials in this country. GREENHALGE made a good Governor: WEAVER is the kind of Mayor Philadelphia has long needed, and the Detroit Journal says of Governor Wanner of Michigan: "He has justified every promise made concerning him, and every instance of faith and confidence reposed in him."—Boston Evening Transcript.

Why not adopt them, then, and call them what they are, Americans?

Tipping and Club Servants. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Now it is t club servants that have begun to be demoralised by the tipping system. Higher wages and the Christmas subscription are evidently not compensation for the gratuities that visiting millionaires scatter among the hotel servants.

THE SUN printed the other day a letter which

gave voice to this complaint from one of these servants, although it did not describe the presen condition of domestic service in the New clubs. The old style English and Irish servant have all but disappeared. Their places are rapidly going to the Italians and other Continental serwho are willing to work for smaller pay Much greater rewards await the better trained and higher class servants in the new hotels. So the house committees will be compelled to raise the rate of wages or part with the kind of servants that have been traditional in New York clubs. NEW YORK, July 28.

The Southerners and Their Old Slaves. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Please allow me to express my keen appreciation of the grati-tude shown to the Southern slaves by Mrs. Moore's etter in TEB SUN of July 22. I hope her letter will bring to the memory of many others the good deeds that have been done by the colored people in the South during slavery, and that they will join her in the good work. I know that there are thousands of others that have had the same expe-rience with the slave that Mrs. Moore has had, but

there are some too narrowminded to acknowledge it, yet there are hundreds of others who are too broad in their conception to try to hide the grand and worthy service that was rendered by the slaves and they will endeavor to help her in her noble NEW YORK, July 28.

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Strength of Federals and Confederates. To the Epiron of The Sun—Sir: The Baltimore Sun published some months ago a statement, copied by you, that seems to give a very incorrect idea of the number of soldiers in the Union and Confederate armies.

The Confederate Congress the first year of the war very sensibly declared that "every man owed military service to the State in which he lived," and passed a law placing every man between 18 and 45 years of ago in the Confederate army."

As this law was passed when the war was

popular, the natural result was to make every one, men, women and children, rich and poor, intensely interested in the success of that army and loyal to it and its cause throughout the war and since. The census of 1860 gives the seceding States

1,069,000 men between the ages of 18 and 45. Men older than 45 served through the war (Gen. R. E. Lee was 52), and many mere boys went in. One or two of every ten ex-Confederates we meet claims to have gone in as mere boy (under 18). One ex-Confederate has stated that when school closed in the spring of 1862 he, with twelve other boys (the eldest not 16), took their shotguns and ponies and ran away to join the Confederate cavalry, and served practically all the war-that is they served until they were certain Johnston was going to surrender, when they, with hundreds of others, left the army and started for home and of course were never paroled. Dr. Jones of Virginia, in writing about the casualties of the Confederate army,

referred to that army as numbering 600,000 which was probably a fair estimate of it at the end of the war, and adding their sualties of 437,000 would give more than ,000,000 soldiers. The census of 1890 gives 432,020 Confederate soldiers then living in the United States. Add

to this the deaths in the twenty-five years and he casualties during the war, and the numbe is considerably more than 1,000,000. The muster rolls lately sent to Washington from the seceding States (although not all

men enlisted in the Confederate army. The Provost Marshal General's official report gives as the total combined strength of all the Union armies:

July 1, 1861..... 188,000 Jan. 1, 1862..... 611,000 March 81, 1866..... 657.000 Six hundred and ninety-eight thousand

officers and soldiers seems to have been the

largest number of soldiers President Lincoln had available at any one time during the war This number, of course, includes the troops serving on the Pacific Coast, also those operating against Indians in the Northwest, and on the Candian border, in garrison, guarding railways, prisons, &c. The man who went into the Confederate

Army as officer or soldier enlisted for the war and therefore was only counted once as one

In the North, unfortunately, the Federal Congress did not pass a conscription law that would have enabled it to have fought the war as a nation (as the South did), but left it to be fought out as a collection of States. The Governors of States not only appointed and promoted the regimental officers but dictated who should be appointed Generals and staff officers throughout the war. In the South after the first year there were no political Generals, staff or regimental officers; all promotions were made by the soldiers in the Confederate Army.

In the North men enlisted for three months, and at the expiration of that time they were mustered out and became civilians. If they enlisted again the same men would be counted wice, as each had made two enlistments Most of the men who enlisted for three years went veteran," as it was called-that is at the end of three years they were mustered out and enlisted for another three years. The majority of Union soldiers enlisted twice. Many of them made three enlistments.

At various times during the war emergen would cause thousands of men to turn out for a few days. The older soldiers jok ingly said that a few of these men once got near enough to a battle to be able to hear the firing of artillery. They counted as oldiers, but as they lacked discipline, drill and instruction, would have been useless (unless behind fortifications) against experienced Confederate soldiers. The Confederate law gave President Davi

an army of over 1,000,000 men. While h probably could not at that time equip and arm that number of men, it must be remem pered that after the first Bull Run battle the Army of Virginia did not fight an importnt battle for nearly a year.

Each army was disciplining, equippin and drilling in camp. The South had the great advantage of interior lines of operation nation with that advantage expects to win in a war, unless her enemy largely out numbers her in soldiers.

When the Union army crossed the Potoms River it came immediately into a hostile ommunity, and could obtain no information of the roads, streams, &c., or positions of my, except by military reconnaissance and was forced to leave large detachments of troops to guard its line of communication The further it went the smaller its fighting

The impression of Northern troops has been that up to the battle of Chancellorsville they were generally outnumbered (in the battles Virginia), at least on the important points of the field, and their impression is not unreasonable when we consider the number of troops in the Confederate Army and that they did not have to leave troops to guard their communications and could therefore use their entire strength. The inhabitanta were intensely loyal, and any movement Federal troops was promptly reported to the Confederates. The Virginia officers and soldiers were thoroughly familiar with the whole country, its roads, streams, &c., and Confederate troops could be promptly and rapidly concentrated for action, while Union troops knew nothing until the pickets commenced firing.

Although over 200,000 boys became 18 years of age during the war, the Confederates seem to have been unable to replace their losses in men. So from Chancellorsville (May, 1863) on, the Federals probably outumbered the Confederates when they met the spade, breastworks made up to the delense for lack of numbers, and after that the Federals were probably, as a rule, the assail-

It is to be expected that if one soldier is attacked by two of the enemy he will be beaten, but if 80 soldiers are attacked by 100 the smaller force can put up fight and may win. An army of 80,000 soldiers can put up a strong battle against an army of 100,000 or 110,000 enemies, and if the smaller army is thoroughly familiar with the country and has a General of military skill sufficient to take advantage of the information he car easily obtain from the friendly inhabitants the smaller force can reasonably expect to

No one has ever doubted the skill of the Generals of the Confederacy or the good conduct of Confederate troops. Military men consider the organization the Confederate armies as better than that of

he Union armies And what is of still greater importance in an army—the system of appointing and pro-moting Confederate officers was much superfor to that of the Union army. VETERAN.

Inexcusable Meanness in Kentucky.

From the Glasgow Republican.

A good deal of meanness goes on in Glasgow, but one of the most inexcusable pieces of meanness was the taking out of the bung of the gasoline can in the court house yard, Saturday night, and even threw the iron bung away. There is no clew as to the perpetrators. In the August number the World's Work is given

up wholly to a description of the great Nor occasion being the Lewis and Clark fair at Portland. It makes an interesting and instructive monograph on the country treated of. The minin States and Alaska are fully considered as well as the Canadian lands across the border. The ques-tions of the Oriental trade and of the mastery of inc are dealt with. The illustrat for an appreciation of Secretary Hay.

BEYAN'S BROWN JUG.

Mickey's Laureis and the Colonel's Haw-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the BUN of July 24 you did our State the honor to refer at length to the schievements in pitching horseshoes of our esteemed Governor, the Hon. John H. Mickey, and to discuss with your usual acuteness, the probable effect thereof on the political situation. In the course of its remarks THE SUN ventured the course of its remarks The Bux and to suggest that Col. W. J. Bryan, also presumed to be a candidate for the United States Senate, would find it necessary to acquire a like skill at the game or be entirely submerged by the wave of popular admiration for the Governor since the results of the now famous games in the rear of the Executive Mansion have become known.

The indications do not thus far justify THE SUN's conclusion. The Colonel, either hopeless of rivaling the skill of his opponent in casting the disks, or deeming it undesirable, at least at this time, to descend to copying and thereby sacrifice his reputation

sirable, at least at this time, to descend to copying and thereby sacrifice his reputation for daring and original invention, has adopted a course entirely different.

Hurriedly called home by his anxious political lieutenants from lecturing before summer Chautauquas on "The Value of an ideal" for a stipulated sum and a share of the gate receipts, the Colonel appeared on our streets the other day attired in a wide brim straw hat, checked gingham shirt, overalls and plow shoes, and astride a large swaybacked farm horse, without saddle or blanket, guiding the animal with the aid of a work bridle having immense blinkers. Ever and anon the great man wiped the perspiration from his noble brow and classic features with a large red bandanus handker-chief. Balanced firmly on his hip, as his steed walked sedately along, the Colonel held a common brown jug, such as is used for holding mowing machine oil—for which purpose, in strict truth, the Colonel was carrying it.

Arrived at the drug store owned by our apposituation of the colonel was accompanied.

purpose, in strict truth, the Colonel was carrying it.

Arrived at the drug store owned by our ex-postmaster and his loyal friend the famous orator dismounted, smiled expansively at a group of astonished, openmouthed admirers on the curb and entered the drug store, reappearing shortly with the jug in one hand and a green backed farmers' almana in the other. Casting an eye up at the weather, the Colonel remarked pleasantly to a bystander that he hoped it wouldn't rain till he got his hay up, and remounting his plodding steed he returned home by the principal business street. Just by accident the local reporter of the Omaha World-Herald, faithful ever to Bryan and the ratio divine, happened along at this point, and as he was shortly after observed industriously taking notes it is presumed that the movement to displace Gov. Mickey in the affections of the soil tiliers is under way.

Clearly, the end is not yet.

NEBRASKAN.

John Mitchell on Reports of an Impending Coal Strike.

SCRANTON, Pa., July 29 .- John Mitchell has given out an interview in answer to an editorial in Thursday's SUN which stated among other things that an extensive strike iners "next spring is possible, if not ble." Mr. Mitchell says: "The stateprobable." Mr. Mitchell says: "The statement that the miners have begun a movement for a general strike next April in the event our demands are refused is preposterous, utterly false and absolutely untrue. The whole article is in error. We are not making any preparations for a strike next April, because we believe that satisfactory agreements will be entered upon without much difficulty. The insinuation that the United Mine Workers would declare a strike in the anthracite and bituminous fields within the next two or three months is unfair and untrue. There won't be anything of the sort. The United Mine Workers have never broken an agreement yet and don't propose to begin now. We have a written agree; probable. broken an agreement yet and don't propose to begin now. We have a written agree-ment with the bituminous operators, and will live up to it. We have an agreement with the anthracite operators through the commission's award, and we will live up to The fact that both the commission's award railways, and a busy people, all point to

"The fact that both the commission's award and the agreement with the bituminous operators expire April 1, 1906, appears to be responsible for these stories of strikes and general strikes and all that rot. I don't know just how it happens that both expire on the same date, but I do know that the United Mine Workers are not responsible. The article says we are raising a defense fund to prepare for a strike. We are not. All the preparation that we are making for next year is to prepare ourselves so that we will be in position to make the most advantageous agreement possible with the operators."

Mr. W. D. Mann and the "Smart" Sube tion Books.

To the Editor of The Sum—Sir: In to-day's issue of your paper, under the heading of "Town Topics Editor Out." in bold type and at the head of a column and paragraphed, I find the foll

"It was learned that these persons have subscribed for 'America's Foremost Families': Col-gate Hoyt, \$250; Louis V. Bell, \$100; Ira A. Kip. \$100; ames W. Gerard. \$250; George B. Post, Jr., \$100; James W. Gerard, \$250, George D. Poss, 1800.

H. B. Gilbert, \$100; A. A. Marks, \$500; Jackson Wallace, \$500; M. B. Ripiey, \$500; W. E. Oakman, \$250; William Guggenheim, \$500; E. H. Gary, \$500, and Could Brokew \$500

"Some of these persons have also contributed good money for 'Fads and Fancies.'"

me of these persons have also contributed good money for 'Fads and Fan false. I am responsible for the publication of "Fads and Fancies," which is almost complete and ready for delivery to the subscribers, and am proud of my work. I have nothing to concer in it or about it. I have carefully examined the list of persons represented in "Fads and Fanc and not a single one of the above names is to be fours therein. I therefore request, as a matter of simple justice, that you shall publish this letter in full and in type quite as large and in quite as prominent a place as you have printed the erro-leous statement. I do not care to have newspapers further connect my name with schemes and me alleged to be blackmailing, as your paragraph o to-day does connect me, until at least a scintille of evidence shall be produced to show that I have ything to do with their affairs.

NEW YORK, July 29. Mr. W. D. Mann is right in this particular None of those named as having subscribe "America's Foremost Families" subscribe for "Fads and Fancies."

Why They Drown.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: May I ad word or two on the causes of drowning? While ramps are probably much less frequent than gen erally supposed, they doubtless figure to some extent in fatalities, and would certainly account for the "rattles" that one of your correspondent advances as a cause, but which might be regarded as effect rather than cause. My theory is the heart Few swimmers appear to realize the severity of the strain upon that vital organ imposed by their efforts in the water, and there are not many o us so absolutely sound as to be proof against the fatal effects of continued overexertion. To most of us swimming is an occasional pastime. Our daily habits are not conductve to the withstan coffee. Some of us smoke and drink more or less and our mental effort requires a large proportion of our fuel supply. Add to this state of affairs the shock of a plunge in cold water (the other day at Far Rockaway it was 56 degrees against an a of something happening to the venturesome swim

England's Semi-Tropical Vegetation. From the Pall Mall Gasette

Few people have any idea that within five hours allway journey from London there is a semi tropical belt equal to many in South Africa Plymouth will convince the most skeptical of this fact. In the private gardens belonging to the Earl of Mount Edgeumbe there is one more sheltered than the rest, though only separated by a to acquire short but stiff climb from the sea below. Here in the present the open flourish all the year round fine tree camel-lias of the true Cape varieties—rich pink and creamy white, one tree exhibiting the peculiarity of bot colors blossoming at once; sturdy blue gums grow here twenty feet high; fine clumps of giant and dwarf bamboo, splendid fruit and tree paims, the aromatic nutmeg and other spic geraniums, ferns from all parts of the world and last but not least, healthy oranges, lemons and citrons, all growing vigorously on their respective trees. A wonderful testimony to the mildness of the South Devon and Cornish coasts.

> The North Pole. No mortal has set eyes on it Since time began to roll; Hence none may venture to confute My notion of the pole. I fancy it a fishing rod

Upon a mighty plan. With fame and glory for the balt, Designed for catching man.

And angles night and day A few may nibble here and there.

The Frost King on an iceberg sits

HENRY JAMES CRITICIZED.

The Verbal Elegancies of That Novellet's Young Persons.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Henry James gave the young ladies at Bryn Mawr some excellent advice as to observing the purity of their English. Many of those students no doubt turned to Mr. James's pages for examples of the nice distinctions in speech which he had urged them to observe. Perhaps some of them "hit" upon this passage: "It was definitely then that she [Kate Croy] had begun to ask herself what Aunt Maud was, in vulgar parlance, 'up to'." A few pages before this Densher was "quite disposed to be making his escape when pulled up to be placed in relation with her." Isn't it also vulgar parlance to say that Densher was "pulled up"? It is in describing the first meeting of Densher and Kate Croy that these nice discriminations of writing are observed. The reader is naturally curious to see how young persons conduct themselves in a world of such purity of speech

"They had found themselves [Densher and Kate] "They had round themselves (bensher and hate) looking at each other straight, and for a longer time on end than was usual at parties in galleries; but that, after all, would have been a small affair, if there hadn't been something else with it. It wasn't, in a word, simply that their eyes had met; other conscious organs, faculties, feelers had met as well, and when Kate afterward imaged to herself the sharp, deep fact, she saw it, in the oddest way, as a particular performance. She had ob-served a ladder against a garden wall, and had trusted herself so to climb it as to be able to see over into the probable garden on the other side. On reaching the top she had found herself face to face reaching the top she had found necessity and with a gentleman engaged in a like calculation with a gentleman engaged in a like calculation at the same moment, and the two inquirers had point was that for the rest of the evening they had been perched-they did not climb down. Now, wasn't it time for Aunt Maud to say

to Kate, in vulgar parlance, "Come off your J. EASTMAN CHASE. NEW YORK, July 29.

Canada's Commercial Year.

While Canada's foreign commerce has loubled during the last ten years, her record for the fiscal year 1905 in comparison with the preceding year is unsatisfactory. Her imports show an increase and her exports decrease. The figures for the two years stand as follows:

Imports for consumption...\$251,460,737 \$261,911,435

The increase in imports appears largely in the items on the free list, and is represented to a considerable extent by raw materials and settlers' effects, both of which are directly contributory to the welfare of the country. The exports and their nature are shown Products of mines\$33,626,739 \$31,932,325 Products of fisheries 10,759,029 11.114.81 33.091,922

33,235,688

63.337.45

Manufactures...... 19,864,049 21,191,333 49,675 Total\$198,414,439 \$190,854,947 Canada's foreign commerce, in its total, is still very large for a country with so small a population, but the last three years show a retrogression, due to large extent, no doubt, to a greatly increased domestic consump-

tion. Her imports and exports for the last three years stand thus: Imports. Exports 1904. 251,460,737 198,414,430 1905. 261,911,435 190,854,947 But this seemingly unfavorable showing is no evidence of any commercial stress across the border. On the contrary, bank statements, general trade movement, new

healthy growth, development, and abundant reason for the cheerful face which Canada turns toward her future

Governor Winthrop of Porto Rico. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In your ssue of the 28th inst. there appeared a splendid editorial article under the caption "Disquiet in Porto Rico," which has given great satisfaction to the island's well wishers. It is indeed a brilliant recital of the woes and tribulations of our country and a brave defense of its neglected rights and interests

at the hands of the American Congress.

While admiring your ability to treat this Porto Rican question with an ever increasing fascination, I cannot but regret the injustice committed in the article to the best Governor Porto Rico has had since the change of

Sovereignty.
Your language seems to carry the impression that the Chief Magistrate of Porto Rico is partially blamable for the island's situation. Porto Rico's misfortunes cannot be corrected by Mr. Winthrop any more than

he could influence the Peace Commissioners from Japan to lower the amount of indemnity to be asked from Russia. Even Mr. Roosevelt himself could not constitutionally do anything to change the island's status, as according to the Treaty of Paris it was left to the will of the American Congress.

We like Mr. Winthrop. He is a man loved and admired by all classes in Porto Rico, and he has worked wonders in the matter of establishing the moral equilibrium that was so much upset on account of his predecessor's partialities. In justice to that gentleman it should be said that the island's sufferings are his sufferings, and that were it in his power to alleviate the distress he would be the first to administer the remedy.

New YORK, July 28. ENRIQUE ACUNA.

Things Japanese.

Japan is succeeding in its efforts to control the shipping trade along the Chinese coast. The new service between Shanghai and Hongkong via Fuchan and Amoy is doing a large business, which will be permanent, as it provides connections be-tween the service joining Formosa ports and ports of the Chinese coast. The Japanese Government izes the line, subject to the vessels arriving and leaving on time. At present the vessels in use are all chartered vessels, but as soon as the war is over they will fly the surrayed flag of Japan. Of this Chinese coast trade American vessels only epresent 114 per cent. Great Britain's share is

Japan has 9,020 agricultural, commercial, indus trial and transportation incorporated companies, with \$625,000,000 authorized capital, of which \$420,-000,000 was paid up on March 31, 1903, the close of ese fiscal year. The growth since 1896, the first fiscal year after the Chino-Japanese war, is 4,520 companies and \$500,000,000 paid up capital. A further great expansion of Japanese business internal and external, will doubtless fol-

low the close of the present war.

Japan's crop of barley and wheat was 20,000,000 koku (10,000,000 bushels) in 1904, against 13,000,000 koku (6,500,000 bushels) in 1903, an increase of 7,000. 000 koku (3,500,000 bushels) just when they were wanted-the war year; the rice crop was 50,000,000 koku (25,000,000 bushels), an increase of 3,000,000 koku (1.500.000 bushels); the raw silk produced in an increase over 1901 of 200,000 kwan (2,000,000 pounds troy); the 1903 production of cotton yarn was 20,800,000 kwan (308,000,000 pounds troy), an increase over 1901 of 300,000 kwan (3,000,000 pounds troy); the 1903 production of coal was 10,000,000 tons, an increase of 1,500,000 tons over 1901; of iron the 1903 product was 8,500,000 kwan (85,000,000 pounds troy), an increase of 700,000 kwan (7,000,000 pounds troy) over 1901; of copper the 1903 output was 50,000,000 kin (67,000,000 pounds), an increase over 1901 of 5,000,000 kin (6,600,000 pounds); of petroleum the 1903 production was 800,000 koku (liquid) equal to 81,000,000 American gallons, a small increase over 1901, but double the product of 1899, and quadruple the product of 1897. It would seem as if, for years, nature had been helping Japan national assets as a financial basis for the present war. Rice, barley, wheat, raw silk, ootton yarn, copper, iron, coal and petroleum are Japan's chief products. From \$13,500,000 exports and \$13,000,000 imports

in 1884, a total of foreign commerce of \$28,500,000 to \$156,000,000 exports and \$181,000,000 imports in 1904, a total foreign commerce of \$337,000,000, an increase of \$310,500,000, is the record of the growth of Japan's foreign commerce in only 10 years. How can a country be kept back whose foreign commerce increases \$31,000,000 each year for 10 years, starting with only \$26,500,000, and two of the years war years?

Results of Japun's Success. From the St. Petersburg Rasvict.

All the nations, blind to the future, are fawning upon victorious Japan. Great Britain, happy in the fall of Russia, utters satirical expressions sympathy. America means to send her Secretary
of War and a party of eccentric American ladies
of War and a party of eccentric American ladies on a tour to the Mikado's realm. France, fear ful of what may be in store for Indo-China, permits crowned Hohenzollern, who a few short years ago ounded the most solemn of warnings to the white un to hall the little yellow Prince from Japan and overwhelm him with his attentions.